



PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRAT

Getting Together - Moving Forward Together - October 2017

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HQ Use- Karyn Tank, Executive Board member and HQ use tracker, reports there were 3 meetings with 48 persons in attendance during the month of August. Expect activity to pick up as we transition into election mode.

Citizens Climate Lobby Program

Lynse photo



Sean Piette, Robbie Abrahamian & Dan Dietrich at September meeting

These representatives of the local CCL group were at the September 12th meeting to share their most recent lobbying experience in Washington, DC.

They were among the more than 1000 volunteers who made the trip to Washington, DC, at their own expense, to lobby Congress to take action on climate change and encourage members to work toward the passage of a carbon fee and dividend. Congressional members were encouraged to act now, since once the tipping point is reached; there is no going back.

Their presentation was days after the devastation of property and displacement of millions from hurricanes Harvey in Texas on August 29th and Irma in Florida on September 11th and while massive forest fires raged in Montana and the west.

The group took questions from the audience and received a hearty round of applause.

Dan urged members to consider reading a great book, [Al Franken, Giant of the Senate.](#)

Anti-intellectualism has been a constant thread winding its way through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy means that “My ignorance is just as good as your knowledge”.

Isaac Asimov

PCDP – Visible In the Community



PCDP recently held its second of the year cookout in the Trig's grocery parking lot in Stevens Point. It was a sunny, warm day, the beginning of a fall weekend.

The profits were minimal and in fact the donation jar collected more money than the food sales, but all would agree, the exposure for the Party in the community is well worth the effort.

Thank you to Ray Cal for arranging the outing, signing up the volunteers, providing the grill and flippin' burgers too. Also thanks to these steadfast workers: Nancy & Konrad Chojnacki, Ned Grossnickle, Greg Hanneman, Gary Hawley, Jim Pollock, Darlene Todd, Jan Way, Mary Weiss and Tim Zimmerman.

Lynse photo

Co-Chairs Gary Hawley and Jan Way led a discussion at the September meeting focused on the purchase, installation and financing of photovoltaic panels on the roof of the HQs.

The idea to harness the sun to help with our electricity costs had been discussed by the Executive Board for some time. The incentive to move forward was a program sponsored by mrea that partnered interested users of solar energy with companies that provide the panels as well as focus on energy that provided a financial incentive to act now.

Because of the time constraints to proceed while the incentives were available, the PCDP membership has agreed to provide half of the cost, while Kent & Sue Hall will finance the remaining half upfront and will chair a Capital Campaign Committee to raise the funds to reimburse the Halls. Committee members are Kent & Sue Hall, Ned Grossnickle, Gary Hawley and Nichole Lynse.



Gary Hawley, Jan Way, Carol Gawlik

PCDP Executive Board

Co-Chairs

Gary Hawley 715-321-0111

Jan Way 715-572-5802

Vice Chairs

Jack Allgaier 715-341-5359

Jerod Barkley 715-544-6166

Ned Grossnickle 715-693-6095

Karyn Tank 715-344-8009

Statutory Chair

Michele Bjella 715-345-9779

Treasurer

Rick Christofferson 715-342-0747

Secretary

Carol Gawlik 715-344-3961

Newsletter Editor

Trudy Pederson 715-341-6195

Representatives at Large

Konrad Chojnacki 715-344-5763

Nancy Chojnacki 715-344-5763

Glen Fink 715-341-0155

David Pederson 715-341-6195

Jim Pollack 715-295-9979

Robbie Abrahamian 414-534-0424

College Dems President

Rachel Lozinski 612-275-7236

College Dems V. President

Josh Norman 763-439-2207

EARL SPANGENBERG

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WE NOTE THE SUDDEN PASSING OF EARL SPANGENBERG RECENTLY AND SEND OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO THE SPANGENBERG FAMILY.

EARL WAS A STEADFAST MEMBER OF THE PCDP FOR MANY YEARS AND SERVED ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR A LOT OF THOSE YEARS.

WE WILL MISS HIS VOICE OF THOUGHTFUL REASONING AND INSIGHTFULNESS.

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October 10 Program



File photo

Join fellow Dems as Katrina shares her thoughts regarding the recently passed State budget, the Governor's vetoes and other information she wants to share.

It will be an enlightened program and a chance to ask questions from one who is "in the trenches" everyday!

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The welfare of each of us is dependent fundamentally upon the welfare of all of us.  
Theodore Roosevelt

## Headquarters Building Then and now



Today

Photo of 2220 Division St. in the early 1970s

We are interested in the history of our building at 2220 Division St. Does anyone have pictures or information as to what the HQs building looked like before the siding was put on? Do you remember the businesses or organizations that used this building?

If you have any information, please send it to the newsletter editor, [graniteridgefarm@gmail.com](mailto:graniteridgefarm@gmail.com) Thank you for any information you can share. Trudy

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### Upcoming Events

**Wausau Grassroots Festival – Sat. Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am to 10 pm** with music, food, and political speeches at the Wausau Labor Temple. The goal is to unite Democrats. All of the Democratic gubernatorial candidates will speak as well as Rep. Dennis Kucinich and John Nichols. There will be bands, food, drinks and kinship to round out the evening.

**The New People Environmental Summit- Oct. 14 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm at the Ho-Chunk Casino in Nekoosa.** The goal is to bring native people and the rest of us together in protecting our environment for the next 7 generations. For more information or reservations, call [715-213-3223](tel:715-213-3223). We also have flyers at the HQ.

**NEW Let's Get Together and Chat- Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am at Emy J's.** Often we find ourselves so busy at meetings we don't have time to just relax, socialize, and enjoy each other's company. We will do this over a cup of coffee or other refreshment or even lunch. This will be a very informal gathering that we would like to continue weekly and see how it goes. Join us!

**Portage County Board of Supervisors** – Ray Cal is asking us to identify progressive, Democratic candidates for the Portage County Board of Supervisors for the spring of 2018 election. The primary is Tuesday February 21 and the election is Tuesday April 4<sup>th</sup>. Contact Ray if you know of a potential interested candidate. [raymond.cal@hotmail.com](mailto:raymond.cal@hotmail.com)

**Michele Bjella is the PCDPs Statutory chairman.** Michele is putting out a request to any person that may be interested in working at one of the polling places for the April election or any election, to please call her. 715-345-9775

## Portage County Prescription Drug Take Back Protect Your Family & the Environment

Bring all your (and anyone else's) unwanted, unneeded or outdated prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines. Please leave the medications in their original containers. Please remove the patient's name, but leave the identity of the medications intact.

|                    |                     |                                   |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tuesday, Oct 24th  | 11:30 am – 12:30 pm | Faith Lutheran Church, Rosholt    |
| Thursday, Oct 26th | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm | Village Park Lodge, Junction City |
| Friday, Oct 27th   | 11:30 am – 1:00 pm  | Jensen Center, Amherst            |
| Saturday, Oct 28th | 8:00 am - noon      | Lincoln Center, Stevens Point     |
| Saturday, Oct 28th | 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm  | Community Center, Almond-Bancroft |

Prescriptions may also be dropped off at the Portage County Sheriff's Office, the Stevens Point Police Department or the Plover Police Department during business hours.

| ITEMS ACCEPTED | ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED*     |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Pills          | Inhalers                |
| Syrups         | Oxygen Tanks            |
| Salves         | Nebulizers              |
| Creams         | Sharps                  |
| Capsules       | Radioactive Cancer Meds |

\* Contact Portage County Solid Waste Department at 715-343-6297 or 715-345-5970 for more information about the disposal of these items

The most common way people give up their power is thinking they don't have any! Never give up!!

Portage County Democratic Party  
2220 Division St. Stevens Point, WI 54481



[www.PortageCountyDems.org](http://www.PortageCountyDems.org)

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### PCDP October 10 Meeting

6 PM Socialization

6:30 PM Call To Order

Program – Assemblyman Katrina Shankland will speak about the recent Wisconsin Budget and other news of interest.

Refreshments and Raffle

Elected Officials and candidates comments

Authorized and paid for by Portage County Democratic Party